

# Places in Peril

## Alabama's Most Endangered Sites for 2010

**Alabama Historical Commission  
Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation**

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### Shorter Cemetery in Eufaula named as a *Place in Peril*

In observance of National Historic Preservation Month, the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) and the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation (ATHP) announce Alabama's most endangered places for 2010.

Since 1994, the AHC and the ATHP have joined forces to sponsor *Places in Peril*, a program designed to highlight some of Alabama's most significant endangered historic sites.

"Places in Peril is a valuable tool in directing public attention to the many historic places in Alabama that are under threat from neglect or demolition," said Frank White, executive director of the AHC.

David Schneider, executive director of the ATHP states, "This list reminds us that much remains to be done to help Alabamians recognize that our historic places are essential community assets. These places represent one of the greenest approaches to providing places in which to live and work."

#### **Shorter Cemetery**

Riverside Drive, Eufaula

On a high bluff overlooking Lake Eufaula, the Shorter Cemetery is the burial place of the prominent Shorter family of Barbour County. The cemetery, situated on five acres in the middle of downtown Eufaula, is sheltered by moss-draped limbs of tall oak trees and is partially enclosed by a brick wall and wrought iron fence. Burial sites are marked by soaring obelisks and graceful statuary, making it a romantic and lovely spot in the city.

John Gill Shorter was the state's first Civil War governor. He rose to political prominence during the 1850s, when he emerged as a fierce defender of slavery and an advocate of economic development and diversification. He and his family are buried in the Shorter cemetery, which also includes a separate slave/servant cemetery nearby.

Located near the Shorter home (which burned circa 1885), the cemetery is threatened by both vandals and deterioration of the tombstones, statuary, brick walls, and wrought iron fencing. An active cemetery group is working to preserve this important local landmark. Additionally, there is an urgent need to repair tombstones, statuary, brick walls, and wrought iron fencing.

## 2010 Places in Peril

- . **Auburn Train Depot**, Auburn, Lee County
- . **Bankhead House**, Sulligent, Lamar County
- . **Bankhead-Shackelford House**, Courtland, Lauderdale County
- . **Coosa County Farmer's and Civic Association Building**, Rockford, Coosa County
- . **Cricket Theatre**, Collinsville, DeKalb County
- . **Kelly-Stone-Hill House**, Carrollton, Pickens County
- . **Magee Farm**, Kushla, Mobile County
- . **Old Federal Road**, multiple counties
- . **Shorter Cemetery**, Eufaula, Barbour County
- . **Cotton Mills**, statewide
- . **Historic Wood Windows**, statewide

*The Places in Peril list carries no formal protection, but it does build awareness in local communities about endangered sites, and can help generate support to preserve these places.*

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